

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8423
AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 1634

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, UNESCO, RO
SUBJ: UNESCO: DUMITRESCU CASE
REFS: (A) STATE 63345; (B) PARIS 7500

1. IN OUR OPINION, GOR HAS PROBABLY ALREADY RESORTED TO MAXIMUM LEVEL OF PRESSURE IT IS LIKELY TO BE WILLING TO APPLY ON DUMITRESCU. GOR IS SENSITIVE TO ADVERSE PUBLICITY AND, ALTHOUGH IT CAN BE ARBITRARY AND HIGH HANDED IN ITS ACTIONS, IT ALSO STRONGLY DESIRES DECENT OPINION OF MANKIND AND IS LOATH TO RESORT TO EXTREME PHYSICAL ABUSES PRACTICED BY SOME OF ITS NEIGHBORS-- AT LEAST IN CASES AS SENSITIVE AS THIS. WE SHARE DEPARTMENT'S UNSANGUINE VIEW OF PROSPECTS OF GOR RETREAT, BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT SENDING SIGNAL THAT UNESCO MAY SEEK ICJ OPINION WOULD HAVE ADVERSE IMPLICATIONS FOR DUMITRESCU. ON CONTRARY, WE THINK IT PROBABLE THAT THIS PROSPECT AND CONTINUED PUBLICITY WILL MAKE GOR MORE CAUTIOUS AND STAY ITS HAND FROM ANY DEFINITIVE ACTION LIKELY TO PROVOKE EVEN GREATER UPROAR.

2. WE FIND REVISED TEXT ACCEPTABLE: IT EXPRESSES U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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INTEREST IN U.N. CONTEXT AND STRIKES AN APPROPRIATE BALANCE BETWEEN CONCERN AND PRUDENCE.

3. WE ASSUME ANA DUMITRESCU DOES NOT INTEND TO RETURN TO ROMANIA. IN ANY EVENT, WE ESTIMATE HER CONTACT WITH AMBASSADOR TORRES IS NOT GOING TO MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE AT THIS POINT, GIVEN HER ALREADY ACTIVE ROLE ON BEHALF

OF HER FATHER. OUR EVALUATION OF THE LIKELY EFFECTS OF HER CONTACT WITH AMBASSADOR TORRES ARE SAME AS STATED IN PARA ONE: CONTACT WITH U.S. DELEGATE SHOULD HAVE SAME RESTRAINING EFFECT ON GOR AS SIGNAL RE ICJ, SO LONG AS USG DOES NOT ACTIVELY INSERT ITSELF IN DIRECT CHALLENGE TO GOR.

4. DG M'BOW'S CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF FOUL PLAY RESULTING IN DUMITRESCU'S DEATH (REF B) SEEMS TO US FAR FETCHED. ONE CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT RESIGNATION OR ADMISSION OF SOME CRIME MIGHT LEAD TO TRIAL AND IMPRISONMENT. ON OTHER HAND, GOR HAS OPTED BEFORE FOR FACE-SAVING SOLUTIONS IN WHAT AMOUNTS TO A FORM OF PLEA BARGAINING, AND THIS IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY IN DUMITRESCU CASE.
AGGREY

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